

# The Wichita Eagle.

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## THE ORCHARD.

Apple and pear trees should be well mulched with coarse hay, so far as the branches extend, before the fruits begin to ripen; this will keep the fruit clean, and if the ground be strong, save it from becoming bruised when it drops.

The crop of pears is so light this year that but little time has been required to thin the fruit. But the crop of apples is so remarkably heavy that the time usually devoted to thinning pears may be profitably devoted to thinning apples. The market is unusually so overstocked with apples of the ordinary quality that prices are low. But who can carry to market apples of large size and first quality can always find a ready sale at a good price. If one-half the fruit of an overladen apple tree be picked off, the remaining half will grow to a size that will make about the same measurement as the whole would, and will command in price about twice as much. To this end only requires considerable time and patience, but also a larger amount of courage, especially if the fruit be valuable and the operator be new at the business. To thin fruit on large trees, a cutter made like the cutting part of a pair of shears partly open, fastened to the end of a light pole, is a good implement to work with.

Now is the time to look for a second crop of the coding moth. The first crop of this year has been very small, owing probably to the fact that the apples last year were so few, there was food enough to feed only a limited number of worms.

Some of the worms may be caught by placing strips of woolen cloth in the crotches and around the trunks of the trees; a flock of hens in the orchard will destroy most of them, a sufficient number of pigs to eat the apples as fast as they drop will destroy many of them but pigs can be kept to advantage only in orchards composed of all winter fruits.

The fall caterpillars must be looked after. There are several kinds—those that web in the leaves can be readily seen and can be easily destroyed by pulling off the leaves and crushing them under foot. There is a red-headed worm that makes no web, and is not so readily seen, until it gets considerable size and has eaten many leaves. When small, large numbers of these worms congregate on a single leaf, with all their heads pointing to the outer edge; picking off the leaves and crushing the worms is the remedy.

Young pear orchards are sometimes injured by small slugs on the leaves. At first they look like small dirty specks, but as they grow they attain a size of nearly a half inch in length, and if in considerable numbers will destroy the whole of the green foliage of the tree. But few enemies to the orchard are so easily destroyed as these. Their skin is very sticky, so much so that any fine dry substance will stick to them and kill them in a very short time. Lime, plaster, ashes, and even fine dry loam scattered over the trees, will destroy them.

To know just when to gather pears requires experience and close observation. While some varieties never seem to be so good as when ripened on the tree, others are comparatively worthless unless gathered before fully ripe. The English Jargonelle is among the former and the Sheldon the latter. It would be very difficult to establish any rules, as the soil and location have a great influence on the ripening of all fruits.

The peach orchard should be heavily mulched before the fruit begins to ripen, and if thinning is not already complete, no time should be lost in thinning, as the early varieties will soon begin to ripen. Most varieties should be very nearly ripe before they are gathered; in fact there are some varieties that never eat better than when taken fully ripe from the tree. A good pear will ripen almost, if not quite at the head of the fruit of New England. Therefore the peach orchard should receive that care necessary to insure good crops every year. If the borers have not been looked after, they should be examined and scraped. The fruit should be removed several inches below the surface, and a careful examination made for any worms that may have hatched this summer. As they are yet very small, it will require sharp eyes to see them.

**GRAPES AND BILLOWS.**  
Grapes are recommended as a cure for biliousness. This fruit by its agreeable, so acts on the system as to relieve it of its bile, and thus remove the cause of symptoms enumerated, and that is "cure." The immediate cause of all discomfort is a "confined" condition of the system; the seeds of the grapes act as an irritant as they pass along the alimentary canal and cause it to water, just as the eye waters if a hard substance touches it. This watering dissolves the more solid matters contained in the intestines, "washes" them out, and the man is well. The covering of the grapes should be chewed but not swallowed.

Take ripe cantaloupes or muskmelons—those that are too tasteless for eating, are quite as good; cut in the gorges lengthwise; peel and lay in a stone jar; cover with good cider vinegar, and let stand twenty-four hours; then take out; measure the vinegar, less three pints or two quarts—all of it makes too much syrup; to every quart of vinegar, three pounds of brown sugar, half an ounce of cloves, cinnamon and mace, whole; boil all together till the melon is clear and easily penetrated with a silver fork; take out and lay in your jar; boil the syrup fifteen minutes longer, and pour over the melon while hot.

A Boston girl at the seaside recently horrified her older sisters and cousins by wearing a shade hat with a tiny shawl and lace around the ribbons on one side of it, and with a little and how glistening on the smooth band on the other side.

"Wanted ornaments that had some suggestiveness about them," she said, when asked how she could wear such things, and then she hummed "Old Uncle Ned."

## HOW TO REAP CHILDREN'S HEALTH.

The New York Board of Health has issued the following:

Over-feeding does more harm than any thing else. Nurse an infant a month or two old every two or three hours.

Nurse an infant of six months old and over five times in twenty-four hours and no more.

If an infant is thirsty give it pure water or barley-water; no sugar.

On the hottest days a few drops of whiskey may be added to either water or food; the whiskey not to exceed a teaspoonful in twenty-four hours.

Feeding of Infants: Boil a teaspoonful of powdered barley (ground in a coffee-grinder) and a gill of water, with a little salt, for fifteen minutes; strain. Then mix it with half as much boiled milk; add a lump of white sugar the size of a walnut, and give it lukewarm from a nursing bottle. Keep the bottle and nipple in a bowl of water when not in use. A little soda may be added.

For infants five or six months old give half barley water and half boiled milk, with salt, and a lump of sugar.

For older infants give more milk than barley water.

For infants very active give oatmeal instead of barley. Cook and strain as before.

When your breast milk is only half enough, change off between breast milk and this prepared food.

In hot weather, if blue litmus paper applied to the food turns red, the food is too acid, and you must make a fresh mess or add a small pinch of baking soda.

Infants of six months may have tea beef soup once a day by itself or mixed with other food; and when ten or twelve months old, a crust of bread or rare beef may be used.

No child under two years ought to eat at your table.

Give no candies; in fact, give nothing that is not contained in these rules without a doctor's orders.

Summer Complaint: It comes from over-feeding and hot and foul air. Keep doors and windows open.

Wash your small children with cold water twice a day, and often in the hot seasons.

Never neglect looseness of the bowels in an infant; consult the family or dispensary physician at once, and he will give you rules about what it should be nursed. Keep your rooms as cool as possible; have them well ventilated and do not allow any bad smell to come from sinks, privies, garbage boxes or gutters about the house where you live. See that your own apartments are right, and complain to the Board of Health if the neighborhood is offensive. When an infant is cross and irritable in the hot weather, a trip on the water will do it a great deal of good (ferry-boat or steam boat), and may prevent cholera infantum.

A PROTECTION AGAINST FLIES AND MOSQUITOES.

A friend of mine, severely bitten by mosquitoes, and unwilling to be seen so disfigured, sent for quassa chips and poured boiling water upon them. At night, after washing, she dipped her hand into quassa water and left it to dry on her face. This was a perfect protection and continued to be so when ever applied. At the approach of winter, when flies and gnats get into houses, and sometimes bite venomously, a grand child of mine, 18 months old, was thus attacked. I gave the nurse some of my weak solution of quassa, to be left to dry on his face, and he was not bitten again. It is innocuous to children, and it may be a protection also against bed insects which I have not had the opportunity of trying. When the solution of quassa is strong, it is well known to be an active fly poison, and it is mixed with sugar to attract flies, but this is not strong enough to kill at once.

**PICKLED CUCUMBERS.**

The best cucumbers for pickling are not larger than a man's thumb, and should be fresh gathered. Put your cucumbers in a jar, and cover them with a brine made one part of salt to four of boiling water, pour hot over the cucumbers, cover, and let stand for twenty-four hours, and to every six cucumbers put one small white onion in the jar; wash them in cold water and vinegar, half and half, wipe dry in a towel, and put them back in the jar; make a pickle to every quart of vinegar, two ounces of brown sugar, two sticks of cinnamon, two pieces of mace, six cloves, two teaspoonfuls of allspice, the same of whole black pepper, and a teaspoonful of mustard seed; let the vinegar boil for five minutes, after it begins to boil; pour the vinegar boiling hot over the cucumbers, and, when perfectly cold, tie up, and they will be fit to eat in a week.

**CUCUMBER PICKLES.**

A correspondent of the Detroit Farmer thinks she has about as good a recipe for these pickles as can be found: "Pick and wash clean, and put the cucumbers into a brine for twenty-four hours; take them out and put them into vinegar. Continue this until you have enough to fill your jar; then take some new vinegar, add a little sugar, a small piece of alum, a little sugar, and a small bag of cinnamon and cloves; boil in a brass kettle; have the pickles taken from the old vinegar and packed in a jar closely, and covered with peach leaves; pour on the hot vinegar and cover closely, and place in a cool cellar. They will be ready for the table in a few days, and will keep till cucumbers come again."

**PEACH PIDS.**

Pare and cut nice peaches in half; weigh them and allow half a pound of sugar to every pound of fruit. Heat both gradually with out water till the sugar is dissolved, then boil until clear. Take them out with a fork, lay them on dishes without any syrup; put them in the sun and turn frequently, changing the plates if the syrup comes out on to them. When dry you can handle them, pack them in boxes or refuse tin drums, with layers of sifted sugar, beginning and finishing with it. The syrup that remains is fine for preserves. These are better than figs that are purchased at the stores.

**MUSKIMELON PRESERVES.**

Take ripe muskmelons, remove seeds and peel, and cut in pieces. Put in a stone jar and cover with boiling vinegar; let them stand until the next day, and pour on them again. Do the same every day until the fourth day. Weigh the melon, and to every five pounds add three pounds of white sugar and one quart of the vinegar, and spice to suit. Put all together and simmer till tender. The next day but one, pour off the syrup and let it down so there will be just up and boil the melon. You may think it will be a tiresome job, but if you try it you will be pleased with it.

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FARMER, Hartford Conn., 1,670,617

GERMAN-AMERICAN, New York, 2,524,046

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FIREMAN'S FUND, San Francisco, 1,010,141

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SEDGWICK COUNTY was organized in 1870, with a population of 600. It now has 25,000 inhabitants, with eighty School Houses, six Grist Mills. Wichita has a population of 6,600, with good Schools, Churches, and excellent Society.

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